

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NAIROB 14616 301532Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-02 FAA-00 PM-04
H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15
PER-03 A-01 OC-06 CCO-00 IO-13 /114 W
-----301535Z 033134 /43

P R 301155Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5031
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR
FLLET MAIL CENTER NAPLES
COMIDEASTFOR

UNCLAS NAIROBI 14616

MONROVIA FOR FAA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR
SUBJ: BRITISH AIRWAYS PASSENGER TRAFFIC RIGHTS BETWEEN
NAIROBI AND SEYCHELLES

1. ACCORDING TO BRITISH AIRWAYS NAIROBI OFFICE,BAC WILL
ACCEPT NO BOOKINGS ON THE NAIROBI-SEYCHELLES SEGMENT
OF ITS LONDON-SEYCHELLES FLIGHTS AFTER DECEMBER 30. THIS
AFFECTS ONLY PASSENGERS WHO WOULD BE PICKED UP IN NAIROBI
OR SEYCHELLES FOR TRAVEL OVER THAT EAST AFRICAN SEGMENT
AND NOT PASSENGERS TRAVELLING THE FULL EUROPEAN ROUTE.
PASSENGERS PREVIOUSLY BOOKED BETWEEN NAIROBI AND SEYCHELLES
ARE ADVISED TO CONTACT AIRLINES OFFICES TO CONFIRM THEIR
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 NAIROB 14616 301532Z

RESERVATIONS OR MAKE ALTERNATIVE BOOKINGS. BAC WILL BE
ABLE TO CONFIRM RESERVATIONS FOR TRAVELLERS ON ITS THURSDAY
AND FRIDAY FLIGHTS BUT MUST RESCHEDULE PASSENGERS
ALREADY BOOKED ON THE TUESDAY FLIGHT. THESE DATES
CORRESPOND TO LONDON DEPARTURES ON WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY
IN THE FIRST INSTANCE AND MONDAY IN THE SECOND CASE.

EAST AFRICAN AIRWAYS (EAA) WOULD BE THE SUBSTITUTE CARRIER.

2. BAC ADVERTISEMENT WHICH APPEARED IN NAIROBI NEWSPAPERS DEC. 30 CONTRIBUTED TO CONFUSION OVER NEW BAC SCHEDULES BY REPORTING THAT AIRLINES WOULD CONTINUE ACCEPTING THURSDAY AND FRIDAY FLIGHT BOOKINGS AFTER JANUARY 1, 1977. BAC MANAGEMENT ADVISED EMB, HOWEVER, THAT ONLY PASSENGERS CURRENTLY HOLDING RESERVATIONS WOULD BE ACCEPTED ON THESE FLIGHTS. NO NEW BOOKINGS WOULD BE MADE BY OR HONORED BY BAC STAFF.

3. QUESTION OF NAIROBI-SEYCHELLES PASSENGER TRAFFIC RIGHTS HAS YETTTTO BE SETTLED IN FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN UK AND EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY (EAC). LATTER ARGUES THAT, SINCE INDEPENDENCE OF SEYCHELLES IN JUNE 1976, BAC CAN NO LONGER INSIST ON TRAFFIC RIGHTS ACCORDED UNDER ICAO THIRD AND FOURTH FREEDOMS. UK HAS BEEN INVITED TO RE-NEGOTIATE UNDER FIFTT FREEDOM IN RECOGNITION OF ITS LOSS OF COLONIAL JURISDICTION IN SYECHELLES. ACCORDING TO EAA MANAGER OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, UK HAS SHOWN NO WILLINGNESS SO FAR TO DO SO.

4. UNDER TEMPORARY UNDERSTANDING, EAC HAS PERMITTED BAC TO OPERATE ON SEYCHELLES ROUTE BY BOARDING PASSENGERS IN NAIROBI ONLY ON DAYS THAT EAA DOES NOT RUN ITS OWN FLIGHTS. ON COMPETING DAYS, BAC CAN ONLY ACCEPT OVER-FLOW PASSENGERS FROM EAA. THIS AGREEMENT TERMINATES IN MARCH 1977, BY WHICH TIME EAC HOPES TO HAVE NEGOTIATED FORMAL BILATERAL AGREEMENT. OTHERWISE BAC WOULD LOSE ALL UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 NAIROB 14616 301532Z

TRAFFIC RIGHTS BETWEEN NAIROBI AND SEYCHELLES. EAA IS, IN THE MEANTIME, LIKELY TO EXPAND ITS OWN SERVICE ON THE ROUTE. JUDGING, THOUGH, FROM BAC'S REFUSAL TO ACCEPT ANY NEW RESERVATIONS ON THE SEGMENT, IT APPEARS THAT UK MAY PREFER TO FORFEIT TRAFFIC ALTOGETHER RATHER THAN CONCEDE TO BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS. MARSHALL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT, AIR ROUTES, NEGOTIATIONS, CONTRACTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NAIROB14616
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760476-0342
From: NAIROBI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976124/aaaaacuc.tel
Line Count: 104
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2004 by chengls>; APPROVED <28 DEC 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRITISH AIRWAYS PASSENGER TRAFFIC RIGHTS BETWEEN NAIROBI AND SEYCHELLES
TAGS: EAIR, KE, UK, SE, BRITISH AIRWAYS
To: STATE
VICTORIA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006